



# *Packhorse Post*



April 30, 2007

Vol. 1, Issue 1

Published in the interest of personnel assigned to the 4th SB at FOB Raider



*U.S. Army photo by Spc. David Hodge, 1st BCT PAO*

**Sgt. Gary Bruce, track vehicle mechanic, Company B, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division takes a tow hook from Sgt. Robert Lipscomb, truck driver, Co. B, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. while recovering a disabled Iraqi Police vehicle outside Forward Operating Base Raider on April 28.**

# Packhorse support vital to Raiders

By Lt. Col. Darren Werner  
Commander

## *Packhorse Soldiers and Families:*

I am privileged to take a few minutes to describe the fantastic job that our Soldiers have been doing over the last thirty days.

We started this training cycle by conducting Platoon/Patrol Lanes. During the two weeks that we conducted the lanes training we were able to train on the basics of conducting convoy logistics patrols. We conducted countless missions perfecting our tactics and techniques to ensure the security of our logistics convoys. We trained our Soldiers on battle drills that will prepare them as we move on to our National Training Center deployment and subsequently on to any mission our nation will call upon us to perform.

Our Soldiers became proficient in aerial medical evacuation procedures, radio communications and FBCB2 operations. They worked hard on developing pre-

combat checks and ensured that leaders effectively prepared Soldiers for convoys in to hostile areas. We have all learned some lessons while doing this training and I think it is going to pay off greatly.

There was evidence of the effectiveness of our training during our current battalion field training exercise where we established Forward Operating Base Raider at North Fort Hood and have been conducting operations similar to those missions we could perform in a deployment.

All of our companies have been contributing to the support of the Raider Brigade. Our Headquarters and Headquarters Company "Heat Seekers" have established a detention facility and have been receiving, processing and holding potential insurgents who have been detained by the maneuver forces. They are doing a super job and are gaining great experience in this delicate process.

"Heat Seeker" food service Soldiers have been providing well-prepared meals twice a day since we arrived on the ground at FOB Raider.

Our Co. A, "Anaconda," Soldiers have augmented HHC in the detention facility and are providing logistics support in the form of food, fuel, repair parts and water to the Raider Brigade. The Anaconda Convoy Logistics Patrols have been traveling at night with Convoy Escort Teams comprised of Soldiers from "Anaconda" and Co. B. These CLPs have been moving all of the supplies required by the brigade to sustain operations. Without fail and on time our Soldiers are delivering the supplies to our Raider units so their focus can remain on their missions.

Our Co. B, "Madd Dawg" maintenance and recovery teams have been keeping our equipment mission ready and providing recovery assets to all units within our area of operations.

Co. C, "Cobra," Soldiers have been integrated in

everything we do. From the detention facility, our CLPs and medical operations "Cobras" continue to provide the finest medical care available to a Soldier.

Pulling all of these diverse missions together are our operations staff and our logistics staff. The operations staff have planned missions, briefed the concepts and prepared the companies for their logistics missions. Our logistics staff has tirelessly prepared forecasts of supplies and managed the maintenance of our brigade's equipment. They each have provided professional support to Packhorse Soldiers and to the Raider Brigade.

I continue to be amazed by the professionalism and motivation of our great Soldiers. Our Soldiers live up to the motto, "Shirts off our backs, boots off our feet!" I am proud to serve in the Packhorse Battalion and proud to support the Raider Brigade. Packhorse Support!

## *Packhorse 6*

The *Packhorse Post* is published once while at FOB Raider at North Fort Hood in the interest of the servicemembers and their families of the 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

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# Soldiers aid IPs with vehicle recovery

Story and photos by Spc. David Hodge  
*1st BCT PAO*

Soldiers from several companies within the 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division headed outside the safety of their forward operating base to recover an Iraqi Police vehicle that had been disabled on Route Senators April 28.

The recovery convoy consisted of Soldiers from Company A, Co. B, and Co. C, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division and came from a plethora of different military occupational specialties. Medics, truck drivers, and mechanics all came together to work as a team while on missions such as this.

“Regardless of MOS, you need the right training in order to succeed,” said Sgt. Chris Horne, truck driver, attached to a personal security detachment, Co. A, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

Horne said his team is ready to pull security for recovery missions or



**Soldiers from 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division recover a disabled Iraqi Police vehicle with an M-88 recovery vehicle April 28.**

anything that comes our way.

While a few Soldiers were attaching the harness from the boom of the M-88 recovery vehicle to the disabled IP truck, the convoy came under enemy fire from the wood line. The rear vehicle maneuvered to block the line-of-sight of the insurgents and returned fire.

The ROE training from the past lane training exercises made reactions

like second nature, said Pvt. 1st Class Tony Kamps, truck driver, Co. A, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

“I got a positive identification of the insurgents, and then he aimed his weapon at us and fired,” Kamps said.

Security is important because the team recovering the vehicle had security while they were out of their vehicle doing the mission, he added.

## *Got a cough? Find help at sick call*

Story by Pfc. Adam Blazak  
*13th Public Affairs Det.*

When a division of troops is deployed, their health is of great concern. Soldiers need to be able to perform missions at their best; however, a single illness could prohibit them from performing at peak performance.

Fortunately, a troop medical center is available to Soldiers

with basic health problems at Building 56503 on Headquarters Ave.

The TMC serves as a sick-call from 7 to 10 a.m. to Soldiers; however, it is open and staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to provide Soldiers with medical care.

The TMC is designed to help out Soldiers so they can get back in the fight, or it can serve as a

ground evacuation point to local hospitals if the Soldier's condition is beyond what can be handled here, said TMC noncommissioned officer in charge Sgt. 1st Class David M. Doubek of Cut-N-Shoot, Texas, a combat medic with Company C, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th

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# 4SB Soldiers train on aircraft loading

Story and photos by Spc.  
David Hodge  
1st BCT PAO

Soldiers from several companies within the 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division conducted cargo and detainee loading procedure training with aircrafts at the Shorthorn Auxiliary Airfield on Forward Operating Base Raider April 24.

“Today we are training personnel on detainee operations, as well as how to load and unload equipment onto CH-47 helicopters,” said Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Dominguez, acting first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

The Soldiers practiced loading detainees by securing them with the seatbelts. Many of the Soldiers were not trained to do this job for the U.S. Army.

“We have different MOSs [military occupational specialties] coming together to train and fill the shortage of 31 Echos, corrections officers, for the DHAA [Division Holding Area Annex] operations,” Dominguez



**Above:** Sgt. Jace Pedersen, crewman, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division relays directions to a forklift driver while loading a CH-47 Chinook helicopter .

**Below:** Spc. Tiffany Hernandez, Co. A, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Inf. Div. practices loading and unloading cargo from a CH-47 Chinook helicopter.



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# 4<sup>th</sup> SB medics set up clinic, treat villagers

Story and photos by Pfc. Adam C. Blazak  
13th Public Affairs Det.

The Iraqi Army teamed with Coalition Forces today to set up a medical clinic in the town of Karabila.

The mission was the first of its kind for this small village of just 22 people.

For the past two years, the village has gone without a doctor.

"We need to get medical supplies and vaccines," said Emaum Ali, a chief in the village. "The villagers have injuries from shrapnel. But the Americans do good here today."

The villager's sole doctor fled to Baghdad two years ago due to rising violence in the area.

Five villagers were seen by combat medics and were given aspirin to treat their conditions.

"We helped them treat common illnesses today," said Pvt. Whitney C.

Carter, a combat medic with Company C, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. "Motrin helps with severe pain."  
"It's good that the mission went

this well," said Sgt. Saad Mohammed, a member of the Iraqi Army who participated in the mission. "It shows that the IA is working well with the U.S. Army."



Iraqi towns people and Soldiers from Company C, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division discuss what medical aid is needed in Karabila.

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Infantry Division.

If while on a mission a medical emergency arises which needs immediate attention, help will come.

Medical evacuations are available if the situation calls for it out on a mission, he said.

A doctor is available only during the hours of sick-call, yet the TMC is always staffed with combat medics. A doctor is on call day and night in case of emergencies.

Soldiers wanting to visit the TMC during sick call are advised to arrive around 6:30 a.m. so the doctor can see them immediately upon his arrival, Doubek said.

The purpose of having a TMC is to quickly give the medical assistance needed to those Soldiers so they can get back in the fight, he said.

"We provide basic sick call services to Soldiers here to maintain the fighting force," Doubek said.

Generally, Soldiers in need of medical attention seek their unit's medic, Doubek said. However, not all units have medics so those Soldiers come straight to the TMC where medical attention is given.

For safety reasons, weapons are prohibited inside the TMC with the exception to military

police.

"This career field has given me a sense of self accomplishment," said Spc. Joshua J. Bowman of Arthur, Ill., a TMC combat medic with Co. C, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. "You get to see the people who you help."

After two years in the military as a combat medic, Bowman seems to have found his niche in life. "I just want to help people," he said.

With the TMC's medical staff and supplies available to Soldiers, a division of troops can conduct missions day or night in a combat zone knowing that help is always available.

# Fuel supply Soldiers make missions move

Story and photos by Pfc. Adam C. Blazak

13th Public Affairs Det.

Petroleum supply specialists continue to provide fuel to support the battalion's mission here in Iraq.

Both bulk fuel and retail fuel are issued in support of the missions handed down by battalion, said Spc. Matthew S. Ewing, a petroleum supply specialist with Company A, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

Fuel is provided on a daily basis and can be obtained between 8 and 11 a.m.

"After 11 a.m. we are on standby for emergencies," said Sgt. Devon E. White, the noncommissioned officer in charge with Co. A, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.. "We are very accommodating to Soldiers doing night time missions."

Thousands of gallons of fuel are being issued on a daily basis, he said.

The fuel trucks get refueled every other day. Because of the high level of

organization we have yet to run out of fuel, White said.

"If we get close [to running out of fuel] we convoy back to the rear to get fuel," said Spc. Norman V. Jean, a petroleum supply specialist with Co. A, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

With vehicles coming and going throughout the motor pool, safety is of extreme importance, he said.

"The Soldiers out here wear eye protection and gloves," White said. "There are grounding rods for the trucks, and flags on the trucks indicating which fuel is inside."

"So far the mission is going very smoothly," said Pvt. Orlando Alvarez Jr., a petroleum supply specialist with Co. A, 4th SB, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

"We top off the trucks to make sure they can do their mission. We feel good knowing that we helped their mission get accomplished."

"Our mission is essential because we wouldn't be lethal without moving

vehicles," said Ewing.

"We have a good work ethic, which is very important to the job," he said. "We are the sole supply of fuel for the brigade. We have to stay on our work."

"The mission is vital in Iraq," said Ewing. "We keep the Iraqi Army mobile and active. We provide fuel for their generators. Their standard of living would have gone way down without us."



**Spc. Norman V. Jean, a petroleum supply specialist with Company A, 4th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, takes out a dispensing hose from a fuel truck.**

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said.

The 4th SB is running the Division Holding Area Annex in support of the 1st BCT, said Capt. Donald Campbell, commander, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 4th Spt. Bn., 1st BCT.

On the other Chinook helicopter Soldiers from Co. A, Co. B, and Co.

C trained using a forklift to load cargo into the rear of the helicopter.

The Soldiers are using aviation assets to train and prepare to move equipment in support of the fight, Dominguez said.

"These Soldiers have really done a good job out here today," Campbell said. "They started

classroom training just before coming out and have really gone zero-to-sixty in considerably short time."

This is just the crawl and walk phase for the Soldiers, Campbell said. "The run phase is coming early next month and we are looking forward to the opportunity."